TYPE I-FOIA

# U.S. District Court District of Columbia (Washington, DC) CIVIL DOCKET FOR CASE #: 1:17-cv-00994-RDM

JUDICIAL WATCH, INC. v. US DEPARTMENT OF

**VETERANS' AFFAIRS** 

Assigned to: Judge Randolph D. Moss Cause: 05:552 Freedom of Information Act Date Filed: 05/24/2017 Jury Demand: None

Nature of Suit: 895 Freedom of

**Information Act** 

Jurisdiction: U.S. Government Defendant

#### **Plaintiff**

JUDICIAL WATCH, INC.

## represented by James F. Peterson

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ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED

#### Paul J. Orfanedes

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Email: <u>porfanedes@judicialwatch.org</u> *ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED* 

V.

#### **Defendant**

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS

### represented by Derek S. Hammond

U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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LEAD ATTORNEY

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## **Benton Gregory Peterson**

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Email: <u>benton.peterson@usdoj.gov</u> *TERMINATED*: 02/15/2019

Date Filed	#	Docket Text
05/24/2017	1	COMPLAINT against US DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS (Filing fee \$ 400 receipt number 0090–4963951) filed by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC (Attachments: # 1 Civil Cover Sheet, # 2 Summons U.S. Attorney, # 3 Summons U.S.

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		Attorney General, # 4 Summons U.S. Department of Veterans' Affairs)(Orfanedes, Paul) (Entered: 05/24/2017)
05/24/2017	<u>2</u>	LCvR 7.1 CERTIFICATE OF DISCLOSURE of Corporate Affiliations and Financial Interests by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC. (Orfanedes, Paul) (Entered: 05/24/2017)
05/24/2017		Case Assigned to Judge Randolph D. Moss. (zsb) (Entered: 05/24/2017)
05/24/2017	<u>3</u>	SUMMONS (3) Issued Electronically as to US DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS, U.S. Attorney and U.S. Attorney General (Attachments: # 1 Consent Form)(zsb) (Entered: 05/24/2017)
05/25/2017	4	STANDING ORDER: The parties are hereby ORDERED to comply with the directives set out in the attached standing order. See document for details. Signed by Judge Randolph D. Moss on 5/25/2017. (lcrdm2, ) (Entered: 05/25/2017)
05/30/2017	<u>5</u>	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed as to the United States Attorney. Date of Service Upon United States Attorney on 5/30/2017. (Answer due for ALL FEDERAL DEFENDANTS by 6/29/2017.), RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed on United States Attorney General. Date of Service Upon United States Attorney General 5/30/2017., RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed. US DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS served on 5/30/2017 (Attachments: # 1 Declaration of Cristina Rotaru)(Orfanedes, Paul) (Entered: 05/30/2017)
06/29/2017	<u>6</u>	ANSWER to Complaint by US DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS.(Peterson, Benton) (Entered: 06/29/2017)
07/05/2017		MINUTE ORDER: The parties are hereby ORDERED to appear for an initial scheduling conference at 10:00 a.m. on July 28, 2017, in Courtroom 21. Signed by Judge Randolph D. Moss on 7/5/2017. (lcrdm2, ) (Entered: 07/05/2017)
07/05/2017		Set/Reset Hearings: An Initial Scheduling Conference is set for 7/28/2017, at 10:00 AM, in Courtroom 21, before Judge Randolph D. Moss. (kt) (Entered: 07/05/2017)
07/28/2017		Minute Entry for proceedings held before Judge Randolph D. Moss: Initial Scheduling Conference held on 7/28/2017. Order forthcoming. (Court Reporter: Jeff Hook.) (kt) (Entered: 07/28/2017)
07/28/2017		ENTERED IN ERRORMinute Entry for proceedings held before Judge Randolph D. Moss: Scheduling Conference held on 7/28/2017. Minute Order forthcoming. (Court Reporter: Jeff Hook.) (kt) Modified on 7/28/2017 entered in wrong case (kt). (Entered: 07/28/2017)
07/28/2017		MINUTE ORDER: It is hereby ORDERED that Defendant shall inform Plaintiff of Defendant's understanding of the scope of documents responsive to Plaintiff's FOIA request on or before August 28, 2017. It is FURTHER ORDERED that the parties shall file a joint status report containing a proposed schedule for document production or other proceedings on or before September 26, 2017. Signed by Judge Randolph D. Moss on 7/28/2017. (lcrdm2, ) (Entered: 07/28/2017)
07/28/2017		Set/Reset Deadlines: Defendant shall inform Plaintiff of Defendant's understanding of the scope of documents responsive to Plaintiff's FOIA request on or before 8/28/2017; Joint Status Report due by 9/26/2017. (kt) (Entered: 07/28/2017)
09/26/2017	7	Joint STATUS REPORT by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC (Orfanedes, Paul) (Entered: 09/26/2017)
09/26/2017		MINUTE ORDER: In light of the parties' representations in the Joint Status Report 7, it is hereby ORDERED that the parties shall file a further joint status report on or before December 15, 2017, advising the Court on any remaining issues. Signed by Judge Randolph D. Moss on 9/26/2017. (lcrdm2, ) (Entered: 09/26/2017)
09/27/2017		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 12/15/2017. (kt) (Entered: 09/27/2017)
12/15/2017	<u>8</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by James F. Peterson on behalf of JUDICIAL WATCH, INC. (Peterson, James) (Entered: 12/15/2017)

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12/15/2017	9	Unopposed MOTION for Extension of Time to File <i>Joint Status Report</i> by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC. (Attachments: # 1 Text of Proposed Order)(Peterson, James) (Entered: 12/15/2017)
12/18/2017	<u>10</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC (Orfanedes, Paul) (Entered: 12/18/2017)
12/18/2017		MINUTE ORDER: Upon consideration of Plaintiff's unopposed motion for extension 9, the motion is hereby GRANTED. The parties' joint status report 10 is deemed timely filed. It is hereby ORDERED that the parties shall file a further joint status report on or before February 15, 2018. Signed by Judge Randolph D. Moss on 12/18/2017. (lcrdm2, ) (Entered: 12/18/2017)
12/18/2017		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 2/15/2018. (kt) (Entered: 12/18/2017)
02/15/2018	<u>11</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC (Orfanedes, Paul) (Entered: 02/15/2018)
02/16/2018		MINUTE ORDER: In light of the parties' joint status report <u>11</u> , it is hereby ORDERED that the parties shall file a further status report on or before April 16, 2018. Signed by Judge Randolph D. Moss on 2/16/2018. (lcrdm2, ) (Entered: 02/16/2018)
02/16/2018		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 4/16/2018. (kt) (Entered: 02/16/2018)
04/13/2018	<u>12</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC (Orfanedes, Paul) (Entered: 04/13/2018)
04/17/2018		MINUTE ORDER: In light of the parties' joint status report <u>12</u> , it is hereby ORDERED that the parties shall submit a joint status report on or before June 15, 2018, and every 60 days thereafter. Signed by Judge Randolph D. Moss on 4/17/2018. (lcrdm2, ) (Entered: 04/17/2018)
04/17/2018		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 6/15/2018. (kt) (Entered: 04/17/2018)
06/14/2018	<u>13</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC (Orfanedes, Paul) (Entered: 06/14/2018)
06/15/2018		MINUTE ORDER: In light of the parties' joint status report <u>13</u> , the parties are hereby ORDERED to file a further joint status report on or before August 15, 2018. Signed by Judge Randolph D. Moss on 6/15/2018. (lcrdm2, ) (Entered: 06/15/2018)
06/18/2018		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 8/15/2018. (kt) (Entered: 06/18/2018)
08/14/2018	<u>14</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC (Orfanedes, Paul) (Entered: 08/14/2018)
10/15/2018	<u>15</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC (Peterson, James) (Entered: 10/15/2018)
12/17/2018	<u>16</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC (Peterson, James) (Entered: 12/17/2018)
02/15/2019	<u>17</u>	NOTICE OF SUBSTITUTION OF COUNSEL by Derek S. Hammond on behalf of U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS Substituting for attorney Benton G. Peterson (Hammond, Derek) (Entered: 02/15/2019)
02/15/2019	<u>18</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC (Peterson, James) (Entered: 02/15/2019)
02/18/2019		MINUTE ORDER: In light of the parties' joint status report, Dkt. 18, it is hereby ORDERED that the parties shall file a further joint status report on or before May 15, 2019, updating the Court on the status of the preparation of the <i>Vaughn</i> Index and proposed next steps in this litigation Signed by Judge Randolph D. Moss on 2/18/2019. (lcrdm2, ) (Entered: 02/18/2019)
02/19/2019		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 5/15/2019. (kt) (Entered: 02/19/2019)
05/15/2019	<u>19</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS. (Hammond, Derek) (Entered: 05/15/2019)